

**ADVANCE CTE ANNOUNCES FOUR STATES AND WASHINGTON, D.C. AS
GRANTEES FOR POSTSECONDARY CTE DATA QUALITY IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVE**

**University of the District of Columbia Community College
Will Serve as District's Designated Agency**

WASHINGTON, DC (November 12, 2020) - Advance CTE today announces that Washington, DC, has been selected as one of five grantees to participate in a cohort focused on improving postsecondary Career Technical Education (CTE) data quality.

The District of Columbia, in addition to Alabama, Delaware, Florida and Oregon, were all chosen through a competitive application process to participate in an initiative [announced in June 2020](#) and generously funded by ECMC Foundation. The [Advancing Postsecondary CTE Data Quality Initiative](#) aims to enhance equity, access and program quality for postsecondary CTE learners by building state capacity to improve postsecondary data systems, collection and sharing. Quality data is a critical component for informed decision making about CTE programming and discerning the needs of underrepresented populations in postsecondary CTE.

The University of the District of Columbia (UDC) Community College will serve as the District's designated agency to design and implement a two-year data quality action plan, under the direction of Dean Marilyn Hamilton. As part of the cohort, they will receive planning and implementation grants, technical assistance and a peer-support network from Advance CTE. The District will leverage the peer-support network to identify best practices for creating and implementing a new postsecondary CTE data system and to build capacity for local stakeholders to take advantage of the new system. In doing so, the UDC Community College, an integral component of the sole public university in the nation's capital, strives to foster a culture of postsecondary CTE professionals who are informed and empowered to prioritize data when making decisions to enhance connectivity, program quality, and student outcomes.

"Quality data is critical for states to develop relevant, equitable, and effective CTE programs that meet the unique and dynamic needs of postsecondary learners," said Kimberly Green, Executive Director, Advance CTE. *"The five grantees represent a snapshot of the diverse challenges facing data quality, and we are excited about the potential of this cohort to foster innovation and develop foundational systems for quality data that can be scaled nationally in the years to come."*

"The quality of Career and Technical Education programs dramatically improve when there's a clear connection between secondary, postsecondary, and workforce programs within the region. We are proud to partner with the University of the District of Columbia's Community College and Advance CTE as we implement and improve our program quality initiatives at the Community College, providing a data-driven way to make these connections a reality," said Richard Kincaid, State Director, Career and Technical Education, Office of the State Superintendent of Education.

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